



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

History

Benefits

Current Status

FY02 Improvements/
Capability

Demonstration

Project Information Retrieval System

**mvrpirs.mvr.usace.army.mil
&
pirs.mvr.usace.army.mil**

**PIRS Team Leader
309.794.5179**



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Mission Statement

- **PIRS is dedicated to making accessible key decision documents about the investigation and cleanup of sites in the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) and the Base Realignment and Closure Program (BRAC).**



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What is PIRS?

Process & Framework



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PIRS History

- **Concept**

- Use Internet Browsers (Netscape, Explorer) and World Wide Web (WWW) technologies to provide a simple, fast, cost effective means to access project documentation and drawings.
- No training required for end users to know how to use it

- **Established in 1995**

- Jointly by MVR and HNC
- Initially for DERP-FUDS Ordnance & Explosives documentation



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Why?

- Reduce the number of Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and the costs incurred complying with FOIA
- Compliance with Public Law 104-231 (Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendment of 1996)
- Improve productivity by decreasing access time to documentation
- Reduce the need for redundant hard copy storage of documents at multiple Corps offices
- Preserve the information
- Reduce office space
- Improve customer support



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Document Process

- **“Early” Days**
 - Scan Document
 - OCR Document
 - Manual Checking
 - HTML Document
 - Manual Coding
 - Place HTML file on Web
- **Current Process**
 - Scan Document into PDF file
 - OCR PDF file
 - Place PDF file on web



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Benefits of PIRS

- **Customer Relationships**
 - **Internal Stakeholders**
 - **Corps**
 - **Contractors**
 - **Department of Army**
 - **Department of Defense**
 - **External Stakeholders**
 - **State Regulators**
 - **Local Community**
 - **Environmental Activists**



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Benefits continued

- **Cost Avoidance \$320K/yr**
 - If 20 documents are downloaded each day that would have been requested via FIOA
 - $20 \text{ doc/dy} * 5 \text{ dy/wk} * 52 \text{ wk/yr}$
= 5200 doc/yr
 - $5200 \text{ doc/yr} * \$100/\text{doc}$
= \$520,000/yr
 - **Cost Avoidance is \$320,000/yr while improving customer service.**



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- **5100+ documents online**
 - 650+ ASRs
 - 1400+ INPRs
 - 21 EE/CA reports
 - 77 OE Removal Reports
- **1500+ projects online**



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PIRS Usage July 2001

- **PIRS had 3,600 unique users**
- **Over 15,000 PDF files were downloaded**



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“New” Features

- **“Public” Site**
 - **pirs.mvr.usace.army.mil**
- **Corps site inside firewall**
 - **mvrpirs.mvr.usace.army.mil**
 - **“Secure” content will be moved to this site**
 - **ASR - Recommendations and Conclusions**



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“New” features continued...

- **Continue PIRS “evolution”**
 - Upgraded to Oracle in Nov. 2001
 - Entirely database driven web site
 - Improved search capabilities
- **Why?**
 - Meet Users Expectations



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“Coming” features ...

- **Adding web GIS interface to improve search capabilities**
 - **Using ArcIMS and GDT GIS data**
- **Exploring possible link to FUDSMIS**
- **Other features users want?**



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Summary

- **PIRS offers real-time access to archived documentation**
 - **Makes documents readily available to stakeholders**
- **Preserves the key decision documents of Administrative Record**
- **PIRS can be expanded to meet future needs**



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Questions?



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